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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/016,498	11/01/2001	Len Albert Bayles	10720/4:1	4553

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EXAMINER

DENNISON, JERRY B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2143

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/016,498

Applicant(s)

BAYLES, LEN ALBERT

Examiner

J. Bret Dennison

Art Unit

2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Action is in response to Application Number 10/016498 received on 01 November 2001.
2. Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mann et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,298,341) in view of Schneider (U.S. Patent Number 6,678,717).

1. Regarding claim 1, Mann discloses a domain name registry system comprising:

a registry management system, having access to a registry database, the registry database containing a current registration record for a domain name, the current registration record having an expiration date (Mann, col. 3, lines 50-55, col. 5, last paragraph, Mann teaches remote databases containing domain name information and being maintained by InterNIC);

an acquisition database containing an acquisition request from a specific registrar to acquire the domain name as soon as practicable following the expiration date and preceding the public delete notification (Mann, Fig. 1, 110, col. 4, lines 33-35, col. 5, lines 11-15, Mann teaches an acquisition database sending requests to check availability of domain names against the registry database); and

an acquisition engine to receive from the registry management system a pending delete notification, the pending delete notification preceding the public delete notification, to access the acquisition request from the acquisition database, and to request the registry management system to add the new registration for the specific registrar (Mann, col. 6, lines 5-15, lines 40-55, Mann teaches after finding that the domain name is available from the registry database, the user registers the domain name through the specific registrar).

However, Mann does not explicitly state wherein the registry management system has access to manage registration records according to an expiration date.

In an analogous art of registering domain names, Schneider discloses a registry database including entries for time and expiration date (col. 14, lines 10-15). By Schneider disclosing the registry system containing an expiration date, it would have been obvious to one in the ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine the system of Mann and Schneider to produce a registry system wherein the registry management system has access to update registration records by expiration date for the benefit of allowing the transfer or renewal of

Art Unit: 2143

domain names once the length of purchase time is up (Schneider, col. 14, lines 15-20), allowing automatic domain name selection and registration and/or transfer processes (Mann, col. 2, lines 20-25).

2. Regarding claims 2 and 3, Mann and Schneider teach the limitations, substantially as claimed, as described in claim 1, including an acquisition front end to receive the acquisition request from the specific registrar and to store the acquisition request in the acquisition database, wherein the acquisition front end is a Web server, and further comprising a Web page hosted by the Web server to receive the acquisition request from the specific registrar (Mann, col. 3, lines 55-60, col. 4, lines 25-30, and col. 5, lines 10-20, Mann teaches wherein a user accesses a web site for domain name generation, wherein the acquisition database stores all domain requests, registration and transfer of domain names).

3. The limitations of claims 4 and 5 are covered in the rejections of claim 1-3. Therefore claims 4 and 5 are rejected by the same art used in the rejections of claims 1-3.

4. Claims 6-8 recite a method with the same limitations as the system of claims 1-3. Therefore claims 6-8 are rejected by the same art used in the rejections of claims 1-3.

Art Unit: 2143

5. Claims 9-10 recite a method with the same limitations as the system of claims 1-3. Therefore claims 6-8 are rejected by the same art used in the rejections of claims 1-3.

Examiner Remarks

6. Regarding the above rejection of claim 1, Examiner would like to point out that it is inherent that a database includes an expiration date to manage records of data, whether it is deleting or adding new records.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. Bret Dennison whose telephone number is (703)305-8756. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am-5pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on (703)308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

Art Unit: 2143

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

J. Bret Dennison
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2143



DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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